

Weekly Column for May 11, 2006

Get out your umbrellas! It looks as if Mother Nature is not going to keep us dry on Saturday for the inaugural Striped Bass Fishing Tournament on the Hudson River.

I am excited to say that we have had more than 200 people sign up for the event, which will make for a great scene, rain or shine, on Saturday. If you don't plan on fishing, we invite you down to the Ale House beginning at 4:30 for a Fishing Tournament Festival. The Lustre Kings will be playing outside, under a tent, of course, entertaining all those who stop by.

The ceremony and presentation of the Mayor's Cup to the winning fish will take place soon after. It should be an exciting day, despite what the weather may have in mind.

Earlier this week, the Ross Valve Corporation received an award from the United States Department of Commerce in recognition of the growing success the company has had in attracting overseas business.

For those that do not know, Ross Valve has been doing business in Troy for more than a century. Foremost among their products are manufacturing valves for water systems and hydroelectric projects. After Garden Way left the City of Troy, Ross Valve purchased the campus in an effort to expand its base of operations, which was located on Oakwood Avenue.

That section of North Central Troy is now named the Ross Tech Park. Brothers Andy and Bill Ross have done a tremendous job growing the business to new levels. In doing so they have helped the City of Troy improve as well.

It is important to note that Ross Valve has taken a section of valuable land and made it useful once more. By leasing out space to other companies, such as Husqvarna, Seton Health, Rensselaer County ARC, Ross Valve has kept jobs in the City of Troy, and will eventually allow the economy in that section of Troy to prosper.

I am thrilled for the success of the company, as we all should be. When Ross Valve ships their products around the world to places in Europe, North America, and Latin America, they do so with each one individually stamped to say, "Troy, NY." They take pride in their work, and the City they call home.

Have a great weekend.

Harry J Tutunjian
Mayor of Troy